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54/08/09 "Sympathy in the Wrong Place?" (Letter to the Editor)

Cleveland Press

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Press Aug 9, 1954
Sympathy in the Wrong Place?

As with most of the people in this, and in many other areas, I have been following the brutal murder in our neighboring "City of Bay Village" (as it refers to itself on at least one of its municipally-owned trucks).

In last night's Cleveland Press, I read the cap-suled lamentation, apparently made from the pulpit, of a clergyman regarding what he seems to regard as "persecution" of the suspected slayer, and, an apology for him.

In tonight's Cleveland Press, I read where a service club in this same "City of Bay Village" has presented a resolution "expressing faith in your integrity" to Mayor Houk.

Also, in tonight's Press, I noticed a couple of letters, one from one Elena W. Weldon, and, another from one Mrs. James Aspinwall, criticizing the Press and its editor.

Let me point out to the clergyman that his concern for the accused slayer, and admitted perjurer and adulterer, is most noble and touching; but, apparently not all the residents of the "City of Bay Village" are angels.

Perhaps the reverend gentlemen was just a bit premature—he did not have access to Monday's papers on Sunday.

Mrs. Aspinwall seems concerned that the good "City of Bay Village" should be referred to in the fashion that it has; but, when she mentions the "ordinary" people, I wonder how long it would take one of us "ordinary" people to end up behind bars, and be questioned at the pleasure of the proper authorities, in a similar case.

To conclude, I should like to ask these people why it is that, by some strange coincidence, the sympathies of all of them are directed toward the possible culprit. After all, the only principal in this case that anyone should be bursting with sympathy for, is the unfortunate victim.

W. L. TURNBULL, 130 E. 233d St., Euclid.